

Honorary Fellow A Citation

Mr Hung Hak-hip Peter

There is a famous poem by the renowned poet, Du Fu, of the Tang Dynasty: 'The tender rain knows the seasons. With the dawn of spring, it gently falls. Stealthily it creeps into the night with the soothing wind, silently bedewing upon all things fluttering on earth.' The poem beautifully paints the picture of the gentle rain, together with the wind of spring, coming softly upon the earth, bringing nourishment and vitality to life. One of the characteristics of the rain in spring is its comforting nature, which is being portrayed vividly in an ancient Chinese idiom from the *Jingde Record of the Transmission of the Lamp* of the Song Dynasty: 'The rain in spring is like oil for the lamp'. The metaphor of this idiom compares the moistening effect of the rain in spring to the oil that sustains the illumination of the lamp. They provide for vivacious growth and radiant glow, respectively. The conglomerate led by Mr Hung Hak-hip Peter started with producing edible oil, and had its base in Hong Kong. It later expanded into mainland China and subsequently captured markets all over the world. The edible oil business under Mr Hung's direction has become a leader in the market. Apart from his work in the conglomerate, Mr Hung dedicated himself to education, benefiting many students. This benevolent act of his, like the rain in spring or the oil of the lamp, nurtures the budding youngsters, aptly resonating with the above-mentioned ancient Chinese idiom. Mr Hung's achievements in his business ventures

and his contributions to youth education are equally laudable.

A chartered accountant by profession, Mr Hung is now the Honorary Chairman of Hop Hing Group Holdings Limited (Hop Hing Group). His grandfather, Mr Hung Hok-yau, set up the Hop Hing Oil Factory in Shantou of the Guangdong Province in the 1930s. Later he moved the company base to Hong Kong and, in addition to maintaining the operation of Hop Hing Oil Factory, set up two more factories here: Hop Fook Shing Oil Factory and Hop Shun Oil Factory. In 1975, Mr Peter Hung joined the edible oil companies to help overseeing the family business. In 1988, he reorganized the structure of the companies, put them all under a holding company, and had it listed in the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. Two years later, Mr Hung assumed the chairmanship of the Hop Hing Group till his retirement in 2016.

During the time when Mr Hung was Group Chairman of Hop Hing, he helped expand its business and led the Group to scale numerous new heights. In 1991, the Group set up the Hong Kong first edible oil refinery plant. The following year, the Group opened up more edible oil refineries as well as manufacturing plants, first in Shantou and then Shaoxing and Pinghu in the Zhejiang Province, and also in Panyu of the Guangdong Province, to meet the rapidly growing markets in mainland China.

In 2012, the Hop Hing Oil Factory acquired the ISO 22000 Food Safety Management Standard and the HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) Management System Certification. In the same year, the Hop Hing Group also acquired a fast food chain in northern China. The takeover had translated into a business strategy of making northern China the focus of growth of the Group, and opened up the way to diversification of the Group's business. In addition to running the Group's operation, Mr Hung also focused his attention on the development of the food industry, and spared no effort in promoting its growth. He had always hoped for the coming of the second industrial revolution in Hong Kong, during which local industrialists could capture the opportunity to further develop their business. It is obvious to all that Mr Hung is an entrepreneur in possession of both far-sightedness and sagacity. The spectacular achievements of his family business are testimony to his vision and business acumen, and the success of Hop Hing Group is an exemplary model to all in the sector.

Both Mr Hung's innovative ideas and wisdom in investing have brought to the Hop Hing Group numerous honours and awards. For example, the Group had been, for 16 consecutive years from 2000, awarded the Trusted Brand Gold Award. Other accolades the Group received include: Hong Kong Premier Brand Award; Grand Award (Green

SME) of 2006 Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards; Green Medalist of the One Factory–One Year–One Environmental Project Programme; The Best Brand Enterprise Award (Greater China); Hong Kong Top Brand Ten Year Achievement Award; Fondly Recognised Hong Kong Brand; Green Enterprise Awards 2012; Q-Mark Elite Brand Award; Century Food Brand Award; and Quality Food Traceability Scheme—Diamond Award Enterprise. Such honours are fittingly attributed to the efforts of Mr Hung, an outstanding entrepreneur in the edible oil business.

Mr Hung cares a lot about the young generation, and has put in a lot of efforts in supporting the development of education for the benefit of students. Based on the principle of 'What you gain from society, you plough back into society', he makes financial contributions to, and invest his personal time in, supporting projects that help the young people and nurture talent for society. He has been the staunch supporter, and now the Honorary Life President of the Youth Arch Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to youth development, helping young people to bring out the best in themselves so that they may, through actively participating in community work, shine even brighter and bring hope to those in need. To that end, the Foundation organizes annually the Hong Kong Outstanding Students Award and the Youth Arch Student Improvement Award.

The Hong Kong Outstanding Students Award was initiated by the Lion & Globe Educational Trust in 1985. The Youth Arch Foundation later succeeded the role of organizing the award scheme, joining hands also with the Outstanding Young Persons' Association and the Hong Kong Outstanding Students' Association. The award scheme is hailed as one of the most prestigious for secondary school students, and recognized for its long history and rigorous screening process. It aims to honour students who excel both in conduct and academic achievements, and to promote all-round development among schoolchildren. It is hoped that through the award scheme, students will take the awardees as their role models, and that the scheme will help inculcate in students a sense of social responsibility. The first two batches of honorees of the scheme set up in 1987 the Hong Kong Outstanding Students' Association, which has since taken up the torch and carried on the mission of the scheme to serve the community. As for the Youth Arch Student Improvement Award, it was also initiated by the Lion & Globe Educational Trust in 1991, at the time carrying the name of the Best Improved Students Award for secondary students. The award scheme was taken up by the Youth Arch Foundation in 2010. The aim of the scheme is to encourage secondary students to pursue improvements in both conduct and academic achievements, to build up confidence, to unleash their potentials, and to overcome

personal limitations, family hardship or physical disabilities, etc. The award will inspire students to do their best to attain improvement. Both award schemes mentioned above were set up by the Lion & Globe Educational Trust, with staunch support from Mr Hung as the Chairman of the Trust. His laudable enthusiasm in charitable work and his efforts in helping the needy have benefited many. For his good deeds, the community is forever indebted and we at this University will always be grateful.

Mr Hung has always cared for the development of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. In 2011, the Youth Arch Foundation and the University jointly initiated the 'One Day in University' programme, under which 200 secondary schools are invited to send their student representatives to visit the University campus for one day to experience the life of a freshman. During the above campus visit, the presentation ceremony of the Youth Arch Student Improvement Award was also held, and Mr Hung as Chairman of the Lion & Globe Educational Trust presided over the ceremony and presented the awards to show his staunch support for the two events. For many years, Mr Hung has been giving generous donations to the University, especially for medical research projects and in support of the development of the Faculty of Medicine of the University, one of its funded projects being the establishment of a research

institute to study pain and its treatment. The research project adopts a multi-disciplinary treatment approach involving bio-engineering, neuromodulation and other clinical intervention. The aim is to develop preventive measures and novel treatments for pain. To honour Mr Hung's generosity, the above-mentioned institute is named 'Peter Hung Pain Research Institute'.

'How gentle is the rain in spring, that falls softly on, and nourishes, all plants. How compassionate is the Lion & Globe Educational Trust, that bestows tenderly encouragement and support upon the young.' Mr Chairman, Mr Hung is dedicated to developing the edible oil business and promoting local brand names. He has got the 'golden touch' in corporate affairs and his successful business record is the living proof. A visionary entrepreneur who looks far and wide, he plans judiciously both for his family business and the younger generation of Hong Kong. Success in business aside, he has provided for many years steadfast support for education and genuine care for the young people. A great number of students have benefited immensely from his generosity, and so has this University. For his philanthropic and honorable deeds, the University is forever grateful. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you, Mr Hung Hak-hip Peter, for the Honorary Fellowship.